

Date: Wed, 17 Feb 93 04:30:14 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #222
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Wed, 17 Feb 93 Volume 93 : Issue 222

Today's Topics:

 ARRL Insurance
 Tapping into AT+T ocean communications cables

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 17 Feb 1993 03:24:12 -0500
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!hela.iti.org!cs.widener.edu!
widener!nobody@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: ARRL Insurance
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <109873@netnews.upenn.edu> yee@mipg.upenn.edu (Conway Yee) writes:

>A couple of weeks ago, I saw a post or two about the ARRL affiliated
>insurance program. If I recall correctly, the response was rather
>encouraging; most seemed to think that the insurance program was a
>good one.

>

>I do, however, have a couple of questions. I have recently obtained
>some of the advertising for the program and there are a couple of
>points which worry me.

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>The brochure say, "Sales receipts for the replaced equipment are required
>before payment is made unless waived." Well, this would be appropriate
>for new equipment for which it is possible to buy replacement items but
>what about discontinued equipment. Much of the stuff I own is older
>discontinued ham gear. Furthermore, what happens if for some reason I

>insure it and then there is a price hike?

Call the ARRL on there little publicized 1-800 number.

1-800-323-2106

Date: 17 Feb 1993 07:13:37 GMT
From: swrinde!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!stanford.edu!
morrow.stanford.edu!taal!joe@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Tapping into AT+T ocean communications cables
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

AT+T has some semi-abandoned wire cables spanning the Pacific that the University of Hawaii would like to use to bring back data from remote ocean-floor instruments, such as seismometers. There's one catch: we aren't allowed to "damage" (ie physically penetrate) the cable.

We envision using a remote underwater vehicle to attach instruments to the cable; some sort of magnetic coupling will then be used to induce a signal in the coax in the range 100KHz-1MHz. We need to have signal losses of less than 40dB, so that the underwater instrument can be powered over long time periods (at least a year) with batteries. We also need to extract signal out of the cable so commands can be sent to the instruments.

The cables themselves are two-conductor coaxial cables. The inner conductor is a copper sheath around an iron core (the strength member). The outer conductor is a continuous copper tube. Between them is polyethylene plastic. Another thin layer of plastic surrounds the outer conductor, insulating it from the sea. Every twenty miles along the cable is a repeater. The outer connector of the cable is electrically attached to the case of the repeater, which is open to the seawater. The instruments will be located right next to the repeaters, so the weak injected signal will be immediately boosted (and the command signals being extracted will be at their strongest).

It seems to me that this is a magnetic antenna-design problem, and there should be some people in net.land with experience in such problems that could recommend good ways to go about doing this (or good references to help us out). We have already arrived at one satisfactory magnetic inductive coupling design by somewhat of a trial and error method. We are using something like half of a torus, with a diameter slightly larger than the diameter of the cable. For this shape we have found we are able to generate the largest signal in the coaxial cable with the cable on the outside of the half-torus, slightly protruding from one of the ends of the semicircle. We haven't yet played with very many shapes because we must use a special ferrite capable of handling the high frequencies we use, and they are only easily available in a limited number of shapes.

Any suggestions? Earth tomographers and earthquake seismologists the world over will thank you for helping to plug the huge and annoying Pacific "hole" in the global seismometer network!

Also reply to mcreery@lehua.soest.hawaii.edu, I'm posting this for him! Thanks and Aloha!

[Sorry if you've seen this twice; I tried posting it about a month ago, got zero replies... finally discovered that this is because Hawaii has become a netnews black hole: Postings come in... but they don't escape!]

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    /  \  /  \  /Hawaii Institute of Geophysics, Honolulu\ /\ .-.-.-.__
___/    \/\    \Joe Dellinger, Internet: joe@montebello.soest.hawaii.edu\ /\ .-.__

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Date: 17 Feb 93 08:04:49 GMT
From: olivea!charnel!jmeyers@ames.arpa
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <randall.729453457@seashore>,
<1993Feb14.044939.21516@icd.teradyne.com>, <randall.729916104@seashore>
Subject : Re: WARNING: Bogus Mods for HTX202! - Thank You!

In article <randall.729916104@seashore> randall@informix.com (Randall Rhea) writes:

>The HTX-202 mod scam began with an April Fool's joke posted
>to Usenet and various BBSs last year. The article talked
>about all sorts of mods for power, frequency coverage, etc.
>Unfortunately, it was written well enough for some people
>to be fooled by it. ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

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Thank You!

I don't know how proud I am of my "April Fools Joke - Out of Control", but I do appreciate the few complements I have received.

Prehaps this was the "prefect" April Fools Joke? A couple days before the first of April last year, I thought to my self, "What does everybody want?" The answer was the HTX-202 mod. And I thought I had made it ridiculous enough that no one would believe it. Well, it got transmitted from computer system to computer system with little changes here and there.

The next time I saw it was on packet. The worse news is that it was sent from New York, and I'm in California! I was sure that it had spread over the entire US by the time I saw it. Anyway, immediate retractions were sent through every means I had. I don't think that anyone has *actually* tried it. Or at least they don't admit...

The Question:

Does anyone have a copy of the "original" mod? I never saved it, just typed it up while online and sent it off... If you *do* have it, please mail it to me - for a "finders fee" I will warn you of my next joke :-)

my address --> jmeyers@ecst.csuchico.edu

Thanks!

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #222
